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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Dorene Wiese on the  
4 occasion of being honored as a Local Hero by the Bank of  
5 America Neighborhood Excellence Initiative; and

6           WHEREAS, The Bank of America Neighborhood Excellence  
7 Initiative recognizes individuals and groups who make a  
8 difference in their communities; and

9           WHEREAS, Dorene Wiese has dedicated the past 40 years of  
10 her life to helping impoverished American Indians in Chicago  
11 acquire educational opportunities; she was instrumental in the  
12 development of the first literacy/GED program in that  
13 community; she also founded the first American Indian film  
14 production company; and

15           WHEREAS, Dorene Wiese has the distinction of being the  
16 first member of her community to earn a doctoral degree in  
17 adult education; she was the first American Indian to serve as  
18 a community college administrator in the State of Illinois; and

19           WHEREAS, Dorene Wiese served as the last president of NAES  
20 American Indian College, the only private American Indian  
21 college in the United States; during her tenure, she secured a

1 partnership with Eastern Illinois University and reorganized  
2 the college's programs for her American Indian students; and

3 WHEREAS, Dorene Wiese was honored as a Local Hero during a  
4 reception at the National Museum of Mexican Art in Chicago on  
5 November 18, 2009; and

6 WHEREAS, Dorene Wiese serves as a model of hard work,  
7 integrity, and dedication for the people of the State of  
8 Illinois; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
10 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
11 congratulate Dorene Wiese on the occasion of being honored as a  
12 Local Hero and wish her continued success and happiness in the  
13 future; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
15 presented to Dorene Wiese as a symbol of our esteem and  
16 respect.